



**oakland mills**  
we value connections

# Oakland Mills Community Association

## Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place ~ Columbia, MD 21045  
**Board Members:** Bill McCormack, Jr., Co-Chair~ Ginny Thomas, Co-Chair  
Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair ~ Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair ~ Paul Verchinski  
Marcia White ~ Bill Woodcock  
Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

**October 27, 2015**

### OMCA BoD Meeting

**Mr. McCormack** called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:03 pm.

**Present:** Virginia Thomas, Board Co-Chair; Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair; Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair; Paul Verchinski; Marcia White; Reginald Avery, CA Board; Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager; Brigitta Warren, Event & Administrative Coordinator

**Also Present:** Milton Matthews, Columbia Association President; Community Residents

**Mr. McCormack** welcomed Milton Matthews, CA President, and thanked him for attending. Ms. Thomas also thanked Mr. Matthews for attending. She also thanked him and Mr. Avery for the \$25K for the feasibility study for Oakland Mills. Mr. Matthews stated that CA wants to be a part of the ongoing revitalization of the village centers.

### Opening of Meeting

- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned that the agenda for October 27, 2015 (ATTACHMENT “A”) be approved. **Mr. Thomas** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Wisniewski** motioned to accept the October 13, 2015 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT “B”). **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded. **Mr Verchinski** asked about the inclusion of his statement he requested. **Ms. Warren** stated that she had received his request and inserted **Mr. Verchinski’s** full statement into the minutes. **Mr. Edelson** asked to make a rebuttal of **Mr. Verchinski’s** statement. He read his statement into the minutes (ATTACHMENT “C”).

“Having reviewed the minutes, I remain concerned about Mr. Verchinski’s statement pertaining to the reconsideration of votes while a board member was out of covenant compliance. While I agree this is a serious situation, I do not agree with publicly reprimanding the valuable people who work hard every day on behalf of our Village or raising speculation about what else may be lurking. We are a pretty small operation in a pretty small community; let’s not make it sound like national security is at risk here.

Furthermore, I was concerned enough about this statement that I asked Sandy, our Village Manager, about the situation. She admitted a mistake and shared with me an e-mail from a couple of months ago where she clearly admitted a mistake to our Board co-chairs and the member affected. She also made personal site visits and followed up with the member with the compliance issue.

Mistakes happen; we all make them. Each of us knew of the 60 day requirement, yet did anyone on the board think to ask about compliance after 60 days? We’re all in this together, and we all bear

responsibility. Anyone sitting at this table could have marked the 60 day point on their calendar and asked if everyone on the board had met the requirement, but we didn't. So I have to ask why anyone felt the need for a public reprimand during an open meeting. This could have been handled in closed session or in a private conversation with Sandy, but why do that when instead you can publicly condemn "The Staff" for "failing?" By the way, "The Staff" refers to everyone who works hard on behalf of this Village every day. They have names, and most of those names had nothing to do with this situation. So by saying "The Staff" failed you are unfairly casting many individuals in a negative light.

As members of this board, we are leaders in our community and should be responsible to behave as such. Publicly admonishing the employees of our village and calling suspicion upon the whole operation is not leadership. Working toward a correction to ensure this is not a problem in the future is leadership. However, it is much easier to criticize and condemn than it is to offer a constructive solution.

I ask, no demand, that we treat people, not "staff," but **people**, as we would want to be treated when we make our next mistakes. I can't imagine there is anyone in this room who has never made a mistake. Think about how you were treated the last time you made a mistake, and think about how you want to be treated in the future. I have supervised people for years in my professional life, and every one of them including me has made a mistake. I assure you, the situation was never handled the way this was handled two weeks ago."

**Mr. Verchinski** responded to **Mr. Edelson's** rebuttal: "1) I don't think it is my responsibility as a Board member to check 60 days after somebody is elected whether or not they are in compliance. That is a staff function, not a Board function; 2) I could have but I did not bring up what to me were also ethical violations, I did not want to go there because this Board has done an excellent job over the last year and a half of moving this village forward. I was not interested in further division, but I did want to make sure that people knew that this was a serious violation and these were our covenant by-laws that were flaunted. I mean that is the only way to look at it and to say that we had the responsibility to look at whether or not somebody was in compliance, I don't do that."

**Mr. Edelson** responded that we are responsible for our By-laws. **Mr. Verchinski** stated that we are not responsible for day to day operations. **Ms. Thomas** asked to move on with the agenda. She stated that **Ms. Cederbaum** and **Ms. Wisniewski** have been working on some changes, but now we should move on. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved (7-0-0).

## **New Business**

### **Donation – Discussion and Disbursement**

- **Mr. McCormack** stated that the deadline for donation requests has passed as of October 14<sup>th</sup>. OMCA has received four requests for donation: Stevens Forest Elementary School PTA (ATTACHMENT "D"), Oakland Mills High School PTA (ATTACHMENT "E"); Oakland Mills High School Fine Arts Boosters (ATTACHMENT "F") and Talbott Springs Elementary School (ATTACHMENT "G"). **Mr. Avery** stated that he received an email from Alpha Achievers at Oakland Mills High School requesting a donation. He will send that to **Ms. Cederbaum** and the OMCA Board. **Mr. McCormack** stated that once the Board receives the email, they will read it over and discuss it at the next meeting.
- **Ms. Thomas** motioned to approve a donation of \$500 each to Stevens Forest Elementary School PTA, Oakland Mills High School PTA, Oakland Mills Fine Arts Boosters; and Talbott Springs Elementary School. **Mr. Verchinski** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** stated that Mr. Diaz, Principal of SFES, and Mr. Edelson's wife, Jill Edelson, have been working to bring back the Saturday Food Giveaway at Forest Ridge. **Mr. Edelson** motioned to allow **Ms. Cederbaum** to use the OM electronic communication channels to solicit donations of food. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded. **Mr. Verchinski** stated that a separate account would have to be opened. **Ms.**

**Thomas** stated that it is just food that will be collected. A vote was taken and the motion passed (7-0-0).

- **Ms. Thomas** announced that CA is currently collecting food for the Route 1 day Resource Center at CA facilities.

### **Columbia Board of Directors Report**

- **Mr. Avery** stated that the CA Board of Directors met last Thursday and looked over the current budget. He stated that Columbia Association is currently looking at the CA tennis courts and the possibility of building a new facility. He also discussed CA's new sister city in Africa. The CA will be sending a CA Board member to go to Africa and let them know we welcome them as they welcome us. Mr. Matthews announced that there is a Ghana Fest that will be held on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at Slayton House.
- **Mr. Avery** welcomed **Mr. Matthews** and stated that he is very proud to have him as the CA President. CA is really working to make Columbia as inviting and truly as great as we know it is. We want to try and meet the needs of our residents as best as we possibly can.
- Mr. Matthews stated that the CA budget for FY 17 and the proposed budget for FY 18 are the CA's efforts to address all of the current capital needs. In the 2017 budget, the CA is looking at a \$25 million capital budget which is twice the amount designated in 2016.
- **Mr. Verchinski** commended Mr. Matthews and CA on taking this step as it is a step in the right direction. Mr. Matthews stated it is very important to reinvest in our capital facilities.
- **Mr. Verchinski** asked if CA does bonding in the future, the residents might want to participate. Mr. Matthews stated that at this time all bonds have been sold but as we have the continued need for capital improvements, selling more bonds in the future might be necessary and we will keep that suggestion in mind.
- **Ms. White** asked about the plans for the Oakland Mill ice rink as it is in great need to be updated and expanded. Mr. Matthews stated that a facility assessment is the first step in the process and one is currently underway of the ice rink. CA is aware that a significant amount needs to be invested in the ice rink.
- Resident Jon DiTimasso asked if CA had any precedent in Howard County to partner with them and make the facility something that is really useful for all. Mr. Matthews stated that yes; CA will explore the possibilities of a partnership with Howard County. **Ms. Thomas** stated that members of the OMCA Board have also met with state delegation who may possibly be interested in helping Oakland Mills.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** mentioned Bridge Columbia and how the project was added to the County's priority letter sent to MD DOT. CA had years ago committed to supporting the Bridge. Is there a time in the near future that CA will again come out again in support of the Bridge, having the Bridge committee come to a CA Board meeting so we can let them know the state of where Bridge Columbia is right now? Mr. Matthews stated at any time CA would be happy to hear a report from Bridge Columbia. Mr. Matthews stated that perhaps CA will join in later on the process. **Mr. Avery** stated that the CA Board has voted on waiting until a little later on to have the Bridge Columbia group present to the CA Board.

### **Board Bulletin Board**

- **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that she received commitments from a Howard County DILP, Health, Fire and Rescue and Police to be present at the November 4<sup>th</sup> seminar. **Mr. McCormack and Ms. Thomas** thanked **Ms. Cederbaum and Ms. Warren** for their work on putting the seminar together.
- **Mr. Woodcock** stated he wanted to discuss an issue regarding something **Mr. Edelson** had brought up at the beginning of the meeting. **Mr. Woodcock** also acknowledged that the Oakland Mills community resource office is still out on administrative leave.
- **Mr. Verchinski** gave an update regarding his testimony in front of the Maryland Transportation Board. Cathy Spain was present representing Bridge Columbia and Mr. Verchinski represented OMCA. This

meeting was what MDOT refers to as their “roadshow,” what they are proposing in the Consolidated Transportation Plan. Both **Mr. Verchinski** and Ms. Spain were pushing to have the Bridge shown in the Consolidated Transportation Program. Collective thoughts were that the money that is already slated for the Bridge can be used for future planning to get more monies. This decision is up to the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board to put it in the “hopper.” He asked **Ms. Cederbaum** for a summary of the meeting she attended with Diane Wilson from the County Executive’s Office. Fred Gottemuller will be forwarding notes from the meeting. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that Ms. Wilson, the County Executive’s Chief of Staff, stated that the County Executive is very much in support of Bridge Columbia. However, the County cannot fund the bridge alone. Other funding sources are needed. The County’s next step is to firm up the costs involved and they would support option 3a and 3b. The Howard County Transportation Department will most likely be folded into the Department of Planning and Zoning. The Bridge committee and Ms. Wilson will be back in touch in 45 days.

### **Board Co-Chair Remarks**

- **Ms. Thomas** gave background regarding bill CB42 which includes \$50K for the feasibility study and \$290K for the expansion of the Food Bank. October 19<sup>th</sup> the hearing was held and October 26<sup>th</sup> a work session was held. A vote on CB42 will be taken on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first issue addressed is the bill legal. She gave details about how this situation of additional funding was handled in the past. This issue has been resolved. The Office of Law has stated that the bill is legal.
- The second issue was “what is so special about Oakland Mills?”
- The third issue was what does Oakland Mills want to do with the money. There was a miscommunication as to what is a feasibility study. This issue has been handled.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that all **OMCA Board** members have been talking to various County Council members to try to encourage them to support the bill. Councilman Calvin Ball has stated he will support the bill. Each Board member discussed what they had done to encourage County Council members to vote for this bill.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that there is a meeting of the combined Village Board Chairs on November 12<sup>th</sup> and asked for agenda items from all OMCA Board members.
- **Mr. Woodcock** spoke again regarding an issue that had been addressed at the beginning of the Board meeting. He reiterated the need to treat employees of the Oakland Mills Village Association with respect and refer to them by name and not just a general entity. He asked for respect and courteous behavior between the OMCA Board and the Village employees as we are all working towards the same goal.

The regular OMCA Board meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Brigitta Warren, Event and Administrative Coordinator



**Oakland Mills Community Association  
Village Board Meeting AGENDA**

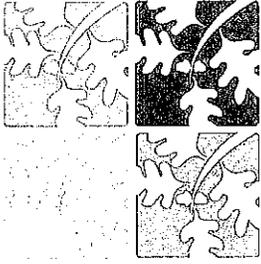
The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place ~ Columbia, MD 21045  
**Board Members:** Virginia Thomas, Co-Chair; Bill McCormack, Co-Chair,  
Jonathan Edelson, Vice Chair; Kay Wisniewski, Architecture Chair  
Paul Verchinski; Marcia White; Bill Woodcock  
Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

**October 27, 2015  
Oakland Mills Board of Directors Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
The Other Barn**

- 7:00 p.m. Opening of meeting**  
Approve the agenda for tonight's meeting  
Approve the minutes from the October 13, 2015 meeting
- 7:05 p.m. Resident Remarks**
- 7:10 p.m. New Business**  
**Donations – Discussion and Disbursement: Full Board**
- Stevens Forest Elementary School
  - Oakland Mills High School
  - Oakland Mills High School Fine Arts Boosters
- 7:30 p.m. Board Co-Chair Remarks, Virginia Thomas and Bill McCormack**
- 8:00 p.m. Columbia Board of Directors Report, Reginald Avery**
- 8:15 p.m. Board Bulletin Board**
- 9:10 p.m. Adjourn**

**Upcoming Events:**

- Nov. 4, Workshop with County, 7 p.m.  
Nov. 10, OM Board Meeting, 7 p.m.  
Nov. 13, 7 p.m. Volunteer Reception  
Nov. 20, 10 a.m. Lively Arts



**oakland mills**  
we value connections

## Oakland Mills Community Association Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place ~ Columbia, MD 21045  
**Board Members:** Bill McCormack, Jr., Co-Chair~ Ginny Thomas, Co-Chair  
 Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair ~ Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair ~ Paul Verchinski  
 Marcia White ~ Bill Woodcock  
 Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

**October 13, 2015**

### OMCA BoD Meeting

**Ms. Thomas** called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:01 pm.

**Present:** Virginia Thomas, Board Co-Chair; Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair; Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair; Paul Verchinski; Marcia White; Reginald Avery, CA Board; Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager; Brigitta Warren, Event & Administrative Coordinator

**Also Present:** Kim Pruum, Special Assistant to Calvin Ball; Andy Stack, CA Board Vice-Chair; Bob Jenkins, Howard Hughes Corporation; Bill Rowe, Howard Hughes Corporation; See Resident List

### Opening of Meeting

- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned that the agenda for October 13, 2015 (ATTACHMENT "A") be approved. **Mr. Woodcock** seconded.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to add the following items to the October 13, 2015 agenda: 1. Authorization to testify at the Howard County Council Legislative Session on October 19 to support the \$50,000 item for a Feasibility Study regarding Redevelopment of the Oakland Mills Village Center, as proposed by the County Executive; 2. Authorization to testify in favor of Bridge Columbia funding at the October 23 public hearing regarding the Maryland Consolidated Transportation Plan; 3. Authorization to send a letter supporting Bridge Columbia planning funds to the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board; 4. Authorization to donate \$100 to the Oakland Mills High School Band. (We normally pay them \$100 for playing at the Fall Festival, but we had to cancel this year due to the State of Emergency.); 5. A donation in honor of OM Volunteers to the Forest Ridge After School Program. **Mr. Verchinski** seconded and the amendment passed (6-0-0)
- **Ms. White** motioned to amend the October 13, 2015 agenda to include under "New Business" a discussion regarding the meeting with County Executive Kittleman and Tom Carbo, Howard County Housing. **Mr. Woodcock** seconded and the motion passed (5-0-1).
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to accept the amended agenda for October 13, 2015. **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (6-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to accept the September 21, 2015 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT "B"). **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded and the motion passed (6-0-0).

### Update on Multi Use Pathway from HCGH to Blandair Park

- Bob Jenkins, Howard Hughes Corporation, was present to update the OMCA Board and the Oakland Mills community about the multi-use pathway.
- All proposed plans have been approved Howard County.

- All of the required approvals for easements have been obtained. This includes Shadow Oaks, Emerson Hill, and Grand Pointe.
- Currently working on Howard County Hospital to Symphony Woods. This is taking longer than expected.
- Construction has begun on the path by Blandair.
- (**Bill McCormack** arrived at 7:10pm).
- Resident Jervis Dorton asked if there would be coordination with Howard County government regarding the lighting. Ms. Pruim stated Howard County is coordinating with Recreation and Parks to align with pathway. She will confirm. (Councilman Calvin Ball arrived).
- Resident Bob Bartolo asked about area of the pathway from Stevens Forest Road to the pedestrian bridge over Route 29. He asked if the pathway plans included the accommodation for the addition of pavement and includes tearing up the pathway for transit when Bridge Columbia is built.
- Mr. Jenkins responded that no, they did not want to wait Bridge Columbia to be approved. **Mr. Verchinski** stated that it is actually a designated transit path. Mr. Jenkins responded that it is only designated width wise.
- **Mr. McCormack** asked about the maintenance agreements and what they included. Mr. Jenkins responded they agreements are currently being reviewed.
- **Mr. Woodcock** asked what the timeframe was. Mr. Jenkins responded that they hope to be completed by Spring of 2016.
- **Mr. Edelson** asked about the signage on the path. Ms. Pruim responded that Howard County is supposed to be sending Councilman Ball signage plans. Mr. Jenkins stated that all signs will be in accordance with Howard County police.

### **Councilman Ball Update**

- Councilman Calvin Ball gave an update regarding Howard County council legislation to allocate monies from FY 2015 that have become available. This legislation will come before the Howard County Council on October 19, 2015 at 7pm at the George Howard Building. He discussed some of the issues within the bill. Residents asked what they could do. Councilman Ball suggested sending emails and possibly have the Board leadership reach out to the County Council.

### **Columbia Board of Directors Discussion**

- Andy Stack, Columbia Association Vice Chair, distributed a handout "Columbia Association Highlights FY15" (ATTACHMENT "C").
- He announced that an open house at CA's new headquarters will be held October 24<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3pm.
- He announced a CA presentation regarding New Town Zoning will take place on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Stack distributed "FY-2015 Summary Report" (ATTACHMENT "D") and "FY 2015 Capital Oakland Mills" (ATTACHMENT "E").
- **Ms. Thomas** thanked CA for the \$25K allocation for facility study. **Mr. Avery** clarified that the \$25K is not just for the facility study but to look into options for Oakland Mills village.

### **New Business**

#### **NEAC Committee**

- "Section D. Implementation" of the new Covenant Policy was distributed with changes (ATTACHMENT "F"). **Ms. Thomas** motioned to accept the proposed Section D. Implementation. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded. A discussion regarding the process following the approval of Section D. ensued.

- **Mr. Woodcock** motioned to amend the motion to state that **Ms. Cederbaum** would be in charge of devising the job description, the plan for both positions and lead the advertising, recruitment and filling of this position. In the spirit of that motion he stated he hoped **Ms. Cederbaum** would call on the Board for help if needed. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded.
- **Mr. Woodcock** clarified that there would be a committee that Ms. Cederbaum would head but would include members of the board as well to fill these positions as the second phase of the Covenant Staffing Committee.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated she thinks the motions should be in two parts.
- **Mr. Woodcock** withdrew his motion to amend.
- **Mr. McCormack** reiterated that the motion on the floor that has been seconded is to create two part time covenant advisor positions manned by two people. The motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Woodcock** motioned to create a committee to again devise the position descriptions, perform the hiring functions and work on getting these positions filled and to move that this committee be chaired by Ms. Cederbaum and the people who would be on it would be the three Board members who were on the committee who created the first part of the process, **Ms. Wisniewski, Ms. Thomas and Mr Woodcock** along with a suggestion of having Chuck Thomas and Lynn Engelke also on the committee. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded.
- **Mr. Avery** suggested having **Ms. Cederbaum** put together the specifics of the position and bring them back to the Board.
- **Mr. Edelson** agreed with **Mr. Avery**, but also stated that non-elected members of the OMCA Board not be involved in personnel issues. **Mr. Woodcock** withdrew having Lynn Engelke and Chuck Thomas be a part of the committee.
- **Ms. White** agreed with **Mr. Edelson** and also brought up the need to fill the positions quickly.
- **Mr. Verchinski** volunteered to take the place of Lynn Engelke and Chuck Thomas as a member of the Board.
- **Mr. Edelson** stated that the open meeting rules would then apply.
- **Mr. McCormack** reiterated the motion on the table that the Board form a committee, chaired by **Ms. Cederbaum**, to assist in the process to select two part-time Covenant Advisors; the committee shall comprise of **Ms. Cederbaum, Ms. Wisniewski (AC Chair), Ms. Thomas, and Mr. Woodcock**. A vote was called and the motion passed (7-0-0).

#### **Board to Reconsider Votes from Previous Meetings**

- **Ms. Thomas** motioned to rescind the votes on all motion passed during the July 28, 2015, August 11, 2015 and September 8, 2015 OMCA Board meetings because of the fact that one of the OMCA Board members who voted was out of compliance and therefore not eligible to vote (ATTACHMENT "G"). **Mr. Edelson** seconded.
- **Mr. Verchinski** expressed his concern about a "by-law" violation and submitted his statement below (ATTACHMENT "H").

October 13, 2015

I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS BY- LAW VIOLATION. IT SHOULD NEVER HAVE OCCURRED AND I PERSONALLY HOLD STAFF ACCOUNTABLE. FLASHBACK TO WHEN I CONSIDERED RUNNING FOR THE BOARD. I RECEIVED A LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2014 WHICH STATED IN BOLD AND ITALICISED LETTERS THE FOLLOWING:

BECAUSE OF THIS RESPONSIBILITY, THE OAKLAND MILLS BY LAWS STATE THAT MEMBERS OF THE OMCA BOARD MUST OBTAIN A " CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE" WITHIN 60 DAYS OF ELECTION TO THE BOARD

WE WHO WERE ELECTED IN 2014 WERE TOLD IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT WE HAD TO COMPLY IN ORDER TO SERVE ON THE BOARD . KAY, I VAGUELY REMEMBER HAD TO REPAINT A FRONT DOOR. BILL MCCORMACK HAD TO DO SOME MAINTENANCE WORK.

FAST FORWARD TO TODAY. EVERYONE RUNNING FOR THE BOARD IN 2015 GETS THE SAME LETTER YET THIS YEAR A BOARD MEMBER WAS GIVEN A PASS FOR SOMETIME AND THE BOARD WAS NOT INFORMED. THE RAMIFICATIONS ARE THAT WE NOW HAVE TO REDO OUR MOTIONS. SAD TO SAY THAT THIS SITUATION HAS OCCURRED IN THE PAST PER DISCUSSIONS WITH CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS. APPARENTLY, IN ONE CASE A BOARD MEMBER WAS ALLOWED TO STAY AND VOTE FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR WITHOUT SECURING A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE.

ENQUIRING MINDS HAVE TO ASK, WHY HAVE SOME BOARD MEMBERS BEING GIVEN A PASS AND WHAT OTHER ISSUES ARE OUT THERE THAT HAVE NOT BEEN BROUGHT TO THE BOARD'S ATTENTION?

- A vote was taken and the motion passed (6-0-1).
- **Ms. Thomas** motioned to reconsider the votes taken during the July 28, 2015, August 11, 2015 and September 8, 2015 OMCA Board meetings. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded and the motion passed (6-0-1).
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to authorize to testify at the Howard County Council Legislative Session on October 19, 2015 to support the \$50,000 item for a Feasibility Study regarding Redevelopment of the Oakland Mills Village Center, as proposed in the County Executive's Budget. **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to authorize **Mr. Verchinski** to testify in favor of Bridge Columbia funding at the October 23, 2015 public hearing regarding the Maryland Consolidated Transportation Plan. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to authorize a letter be sent supporting Bridge Columbia planning funds to the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board. **Ms. Thomas** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to donate \$100 to the Oakland Mills High School Band. (We normally pay them \$100 for playing at the Fall Festival, but we had to cancel this year due to the State of Emergency). **Ms. Thomas** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).

- **Ms. White** motioned to donate \$100 to OMHS National Art Honors Society for their time and expenses repainting the Robert Oliver sidewalk logo. **Ms. Thomas** seconded. A discussion regarding the OMCA Donation Policy occurred. **Ms. White** amended her motion to state “reimburse” the OMHS National Art Honors Society for their supplies and their time. **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Ms. Thomas** motioned to give a donation of \$200 in honor of OM Volunteers to the Forest Ridge After School Program. **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).

### **Managers’ Report**

- **Ms. Cederbaum** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT “I”). **Ms. Thomas** asked for a status report regarding the \$10K grant request. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated she had not heard anything, but would follow-up.

### **Architecture Committee**

- **Ms. Wisniewski** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT “J”).

### **Arts Advisory**

- **Ms. White** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT “K”). **Ms. White** also gave information regarding the upcoming village flag contest.

### **Education**

- **Mr. Edelson** stated that the education committee will be inviting the Oakland Mills cluster Board of Education representative to the November Education meeting. The committee has selected 5 topics to be discussed. He also announced that donation requests to the OMCA Board are due by October 13<sup>th</sup> (today).

### **Housing**

**Mr. McCormack** emailed out meeting minutes. He stated that the Real Estate Seminar went well and was well attended. **Ms. Thomas** thanked **Mr. Verchinski** for putting it together as well as **Ms. Cederbaum** and **Ms. Warren**.

### **Marketing**

- **Mr. Edelson** distributed his report (ATTACHMENT “L”). One change is that CA has, as of today, provided addresses for new Oakland Mills residents to receive the survey.

### **NEAC**

- Emailed out the minutes from the September 21, 2015 NEAC meeting. The committee would like to see Section 22 regarding maintenance be placed in the Covenants section of the website along with some additional information.
- In light of multiple requests for changes wanting to be made to the website, **Mr. Edelson** suggested changes be coordinated with the Marketing Committee.

### **Safety**

- **Mr. Woodcock** stated that Officer Buchanan will hopefully be present to give an update of any issues at the October 27, 2015 OMCA Board meeting.

### **Board Bulletin Board**

- **Ms. Warren** stated that she was sorry the Festival had to be canceled. The weather did not cooperate.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** thanked **Ms. Warren** for her hard work putting the Festival together and due to the long term planning the Festival takes, it is not something that can just be rescheduled to another date.
- **Ms. White** asked about the missing agenda item regarding the meeting between three of the OMCA Board members and County Executive Kittleman, and Tom Carbo regarding the Grand Pointe apartments. She asked that in the future if a meeting of such great importance is to take place, even last minute, if the entire Board can be notified. A discussion regarding future handling of such a situation took place.

The regular OMCA Board meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Brigitta Warren, Event and Administrative Coordinator

# Attachment C

Having reviewed the minutes, I remain concerned about Mr. Verchinski's statement pertaining to the reconsideration of votes while a board member was out of covenant compliance. While I agree this is a serious situation, I do not agree with publicly reprimanding the valuable people who work hard every day on behalf of our Village or raising speculation about what else may be lurking. We are a pretty small operation in a pretty small community; let's not make it sound like national security is at risk here.

Furthermore, I was concerned enough about this statement that I asked Sandy, our Village Manager, about the situation. She admitted a mistake and shared with me ~~an~~ e-mails from a couple of months ago where she clearly admitted a mistake to our Board co-chairs and the member affected. She also made personal site visits and followed up with the member with the compliance issue.

Mistakes happen; we all make them. Each of us knew of the 60 day requirement, yet did anyone on the board think to ask about compliance after 60 days? We're all in this together, and we all bear responsibility. Anyone sitting at this table could have marked the 60 day point on their calendar and asked if everyone on the board had met the requirement, but we didn't. So I have to ask why anyone felt the need for a public reprimand during an open meeting. This could have been handled in closed session or in a private conversation with Sandy, but why do that when instead you can publicly condemn "The Staff" for "failing?" By the way, "The Staff" refers to everyone who works hard on behalf of this Village every day. They have names, and most of those names had nothing to do with this situation. So by saying "The Staff" failed you are unfairly casting many individuals in a negative light.

As members of this board, we are leaders in our community and should be responsible to behave as such. Publicly admonishing the employees of our village and calling suspicion upon the whole operation is not leadership. Working toward a correction to ensure this is not a problem in the future is leadership. However, it is much easier to criticize and condemn than it is to offer a constructive solution.

I ask, no demand, that we treat people, not "staff," but **people**, as we would want to be treated when we make our next mistakes. I can't imagine there is anyone in this room who has never made a mistake. Think about how you were treated the last time you made a mistake, and think about how you want to be treated in the future. I have supervised people for years in my professional life, and every one of them including me has made a mistake. I assure you, the situation was never handled the way this was handled two weeks ago.



**STEVENS FOREST  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA**

6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045  
sfespta.weebly.com



Proud to be a  
**National PTA** SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE  
everychild, every voice.  
2014-2016

September 8, 2015

Dear Oakland Mills Community Association Board of Directors:

Thank you for the generous donation of \$500 you presented to the Stevens Forest Elementary PTA at our awards ceremony last year. Because of your support, the PTA was able to partner with the school to fund cultural arts assemblies and conduct family/community centered programs such as Family Fitness Night, International Night and Spring Fling. As you know, the Parent Teacher Association is the oldest and largest child advocacy organization in the nation, and you play a vital role in helping us continue this important mission.

On behalf of the SFES PTA, I am asking for your support once again this year. If you provide our PTA with a \$500 donation, we will be able to continue to provide valuable programs and resources to the children and families at Stevens Forest. One program that aligns with the school's goal of having all students on or above reading level is our Books for Bobcats program. During this program, we provide a new, grade appropriate book for each child in the school. We love having this program and the kids really enjoy picking out books, but the cost of offering it has gone up tremendously over the past few years because of the large increase in kids. Your donation will be used to fund this valuable program.

Also, I invite you to get to know our families a little better by attending one of our meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm or by participating in one of our events. Our welcome back Ice Cream Social is this Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm. I hope to see you there!

We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. Our tax identification number is 23-7366856.  
Thank you in advance for your help.

Best,

Quiana Holmes  
President, Stevens Forest Elementary PTA  
[quiana1999@yahoo.com](mailto:quiana1999@yahoo.com)  
(443)794-7412

Rec'd 9/8/15

# Oakland Mills High School PTSA

"A community united to support the pursuit of post-secondary education for every student."

---

Oakland Mills High School PTS  
9410 Kilimanjaro Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21045  
September 8, 2015

Oakland Mills Village Board  
Atten: Chairperson  
5851 Robert Oliver Place  
Columbia, Maryland 21045

Dear Sir,

The Oakland Mills High School PTSA strives to serve our students and our community and to that end we unite with community to support the pursuit of post-secondary education for every student, be that in the form of a four year or two year college or specialized trade school. As a part of achieving this goal we sponsor programs such as scorpion success, college essay writing workshops, SAT prep classes, after school assistance for students taking advanced placement courses and giving 4 scholarship grants at the end of each year. Providing these resources costs money. We depend on the generosity of the community, businesses and our community leaders to assist us in raising these funds.

I am asking you to partner with us by providing a \$500 donation from the village board. We thank you in advance for assisting us in meeting our goal. Please make the check out to the OMHS PTSA and send it to OMHS: Attention PTSA at 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia, Maryland 21045. We thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Anderson  
1st Vice President  
OMHS PTSA



October 9, 2015

Oakland Mills Village Board  
5851 Robert Oliver Place  
Columbia, MD 21045

Dear Oakland Mills Village Board Members,

The Oakland Mills High School Fine Arts Boosters, a 501(c)3 (ID# 47 1074276), supports the Band, Choir, Dance, Strings and Theatre programs at OMHS where nearly one third of our students are involved in the performing arts. Our support is borne in the knowledge that it is the arts that give a voice and face to our culture and; they reflect our past and present, and prepare us for the future.

The objectives of the Oakland Mills Fine Arts Boosters are to increase educational opportunities for the students as well as to support the High School Performing Arts Teachers. Even though we are only a year old, our efforts have allowed us to promote the Arts not only at the High School level, but with the feeder schools and community as well.

One of our most urgent needs is new marching band drums and harnesses. It has been a long time need and becoming more necessary as the equipment is not safe for the students to wear as there are broken pieces that make repair impossible. The expected cost of the drum set is approximately \$10,000, and while we have some of the money set aside to put towards the new equipment, we do not have enough to order them at this time. We have requested new drums from the County, but are not in line to receive any money from them that would be allocated directly for the purchase of these drums.

Since we do have a lot of students who cannot afford their own instruments, the school is in need of a new timpani and tubas for the band, violins and cellos for the orchestra, risers for the choir, and production costs for theatre and upgrades to the stage, which is used by all performing groups.

It is for this continued effort that we are requesting a donation in the amount of \$500.00 and would appreciate any additional assistance that you could provide.

Thank you so much for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Barham". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Heather Barham  
Vice President, Community Outreach

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P O BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **FEB 24 2015**

OAKLAND MILLS HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS  
BOOSTERS INC  
9410 KILIMANJARO ROAD  
COLUMBIA MD 21045 0000

Employer Identification Number:  
47 1074276  
DLN:  
26053450002285  
Contact Person: ID# 31954  
CUSTOMER SERVICE  
Contact Telephone Number:  
877 829 5500  
Accounting Period Ending:  
June 30  
Public Charity Status:  
509 a 2  
Form 990/990-EZ/990 N Required:  
Yes  
Effective Date of Exemption:  
June 16 2014  
Contribution Deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum Applies:  
No

Dear Applicant:

We re pleased to tell you we determined you re exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code IRC) Section 501(c) 3) Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170 You re also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests devises transfers or gifts under Section 2055 2106 or 2522 This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status Please keep it for your records

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501 c) 3 are further classified as either public charities or private foundations We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990 990 EZ 990 N our records show you re required to file an annual information return Form 990 or Form 990 EZ or electronic notice Form 990-N, the e Postcard) If you don t file a required return or notice for three consecutive years your exempt status will be automatically revoked

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities) Enter "4221 PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221 PC, Compliance Guide for 501 c 3 Public Charities which describes your recordkeeping reporting and disclosure requirements

Letter 5436

OAKLAND MILLS HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS

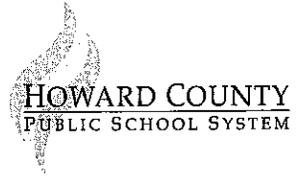
Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tamara Rappaport". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'T'.

Director Exempt Organizations

## TALBOTT SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

9550 Basket Ring Road • Columbia, MD 21045 • 410-313-6915 • (F) 410-313-6921 • www.hcpss.org/tses



October 15, 2015

Mr. Bill McCormack, Jr.  
Co-Chairperson, Oakland Mills Village Board  
Ms. Ginny Thomas  
Co-Chairperson, Oakland Mills Village Board  
5851 Robert Oliver Place  
Columbia, MD 21045

Dear Mr. McCormack, Ms. Thomas and Members of the Oakland Mills Village Board,

The purpose of this letter ask for consideration by the Oakland Mills Village Board to Talbott Springs Elementary School in support our growing collection of Nooks for student use in the classroom. The Talbott Springs Elementary Nook lab has become a useful tool for students to access resources to better understand and to solve problems. Children have an ever-increasing need to find a variety of sources for information and they appreciate being able to use a Nook for that purpose. The traditional model the teacher as provider of all information is no longer a viable option in 21<sup>st</sup> century schools. Having tools that provide fast and accurate information that students need to be able to construct their own knowledge is the way that children now learn and retain the most information.

I continue to appreciate the effort of the Oakland Mills Village Board as you reach out to support the education of the children who reside in our area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Thompson".

Nancy Thompson  
Principal, Talbott Springs Elementary